

January 15, 2010

NASBE Members Central Region

We are very excited by the announcement made at the National Conference that we will be holding a regional meeting for state board members in the Central States. The primary purpose of the regional meeting is to learn about and react to the proposals regarding Common Core Standards. We think it will be very exciting.

We are also pleased to tell you that the event sponsor, the Gates Foundation, will cover the travel and hotel expenses for three members per dues paying state. At least two of the paid participants must be state board members. It will be left to the discretion of the board on including the chief state school officer, a key SEA staff member or a member of the state legislature. States who are not committed financial members of NASBE will be permitted to send one member at no charge, but the expenses of any additional participants will not be covered and there will be a registration fee of 250.00. Additional information will be sent within the next few weeks.

For now, we wanted you to be aware of two important items:

1. The event is scheduled for March 29-30 in St. Louis, Missouri at the Hyatt Regency St. Louis at the Arch
2. Although most of the meeting time will be devoted to the subject of Common Core Standards, a section of the meeting will be set aside for discussion of other concerns that may be of high importance to our region.

We ask you to give consideration to both matters. Look at your calendar and see if you or at least some of your board members will be able to attend. Secondly, consider items you would like on the agenda of the Regional section. As ideas for this later section occur to you, please send them to NASBE for consideration.

I hope to see you in St. Louis.

Brenda Lilienthal Welburn

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Executive Director